



# NEWS RELEASE

**Matthew D. Orwig**  
United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Texas

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: April 26, 2006

*Contact: Davilyn Brackin*  
*Public Information Officer*  
*(409) 839-2538 office*  
*(409) 553-9881 cell*

## **TWENTY-ONE YEAR OLD HEADS TO FEDERAL PEN AS ARMED CAREER CRIMINAL**

(Tyler, TX) United States Attorney Matthew D. Orwig announced today that a 21-year-old Mabank, Texas man has been sentenced to 180 months in federal prison for being an armed career offender in the Eastern District of Texas. **JAMES MATTHEW POOLE** was sentenced today by United States District Judge Michael H. Schneider.

U.S. Attorney Orwig was pleased with the sentence, "This defendant has been given every opportunity to learn from his mistakes. This is a serious sentence for a serious violation."

According to information presented in court, Poole was arrested August 11, 2005, outside the Food Fast store in Gun Barrel City near Cedar Creek Lake by officers with the Gun Barrel City Police Department. The officers found a loaded handgun in Poole's waistband. At the time of his arrest, Poole was on state parole as a result of having been convicted of four separate Burglaries of Habitations as well as a conviction for Possession of Methamphetamine. These felony convictions all occurred in Anderson County in 2002 and 2003. In October 2005, Poole was indicted for being a felon in possession of a firearm. On November 30, 2005, Poole pleaded guilty to the charges. Based on the prior felony convictions, Poole was

determined to be an Armed Career Criminal under federal law, resulting in a sentencing range of from a mandatory minimum of 15 years to a maximum of life imprisonment. This case was prosecuted pursuant to the Project Safe Neighborhood initiative of the United States Department of Justice.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and explosives and the Gun Barrel City Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Allen Hurst.

###